

Park Gives Native Patients Pleasure

There's a new park in Anchorage and its name, TAHETA, will be formally bestowed at noon Friday to the accompaniment of an Air Force music combo and picnic lunch gaiety... all depending on a cooperative weatherman.

Location is a small grove of trees on Third Avenue between the Alaska Native Medical Center and the Pioneer School House. Picnic tables, cookout fire pits and protective fence make it an attractive outing post for patients at the U.S. Public Health Facility and employees are also invited to enjoy it.

The name is an apt acronym from initial letters of Alaskan Native groups who will be using it. Tlingit, Aleut, Haida, Eskimo, Tsimpsian and Athabascan—"spells" TAHETA.

While other Alaskan voters were registering their choices for political office, patients at the Medical Center balloted among suggested names for the little recreation spot.

Among other names on their ballot were Hallan Cove Park,

Heasley Park (for beloved VISTA worker Bob Heasley who will be given a farewell at the ceremony) Totem Terrace Territory, Beluga Park, Pioneer Park, Cook Inlet Park and AEI Park for Aleut, Eskimo and Indian

L. S. "Stu" Rankin, director of the Center's Rehabilitation Project, will preside at the noon ceremony at which the Reverend David Koch will give the dedicatory prayer. Helen Trout, acting president of the Patients Council, will speak and give the group's farewell to Bob Heasley. Food and music will fill out the hour.

The project stemmed from recognition by a secretary, Emily Jennings, of the neglected grove's potential and her suggestion that the parklet be prepared.